

## Berlin Reports Greater Activity by Russian Airmen.

BERLIN, June 15.—The latest official report on the eastern front says:

"The fighting activity remained within the usual limits. Russian airmen have become more active of late, and have flown over our lines on several occasions. Since the beginning of June five have been shot down. The dropping of bombs on Tukkum was replied to by a retaliatory aerial attack on Sohlok."

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## U. S. AUTO PLANTS READY TO BUILD HUGE AIR FLEET

Allies Agree on Standard Type—Red Tape and Lack of Money Only Delays.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—American automobile and other converted factories on Jan. 1 can begin to turn out great fleets of standardized aeroplanes to help the Allies hold the mastery of the air and perhaps bring speedy victory.

Plans have been prepared by the National Defense Council to carry out this programme. They can be consummated without interfering with the production of other necessary munitions. If Congress will cut the red tape and supply the money, the programme will be realized.

These statements represent in effect the announcement made to the Senate Committee on Military Affairs by Howard E. Coffin of the Council of National Defense.

"It is certain that neither side can win without the supremacy of the air for a strip of about fifty miles behind the fighting front. As matters now stand, the production capacity is practically balanced in Europe. It is a grave question whether the German machines are not the superior machines, but it is certain that the personnel of the Allied service is superior man for man. Germany has reached her production limit," said Mr. Coffin.

Mr. Coffin explained in detail the organization already perfected whereby committees of army and navy officers are working with the Air Service Production Board.

Joint committees of American, British and Canadian representatives, he said, had agreed upon a standardization system whereby the machines can be turned out to the best advantage.

The French development has gone ahead in its most important phases—that is, development of high speed fighting machines used on the front. "Some of these types are already in

this country and others will be here soon. Our manufacturers will standardize them with the French service. We have no time to develop on our own responsibility these machines, which are the results of two years experience on the fighting front."

Eight Plants Could Make 2,000 Planes in Three Months.

The Aero Club of America has just sent to Senator George E. Chamberlain, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, and to H. S. Dent Jr., Chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, a letter urging necessary appropriations for the building of the 100,000 aeroplanes needed to enable the Allies to achieve a decisive victory and bring this war to an end.

The letter denounced as a "wicked waste" the fact that eight established firms capable of manufacturing 2,000 aeroplanes in three months and developing an output of 15,000 aeroplanes in six months were lying idle, because of delay in appropriations. The Aero Club states that it has knowledge that the United States, British, Canadian and French authorities have decided to adopt a certain type of training machine, of which from 10,000 to 20,000 will be required, and that at a meeting of the Aircraft Manufacturers' Association all the firms mentioned as being idle went on record as being willing to make any type of airplane the Government may order.

## CRUELTY TO JEWS ISSUE IN GERMANY

Three Teutons Get Permission to Investigate Reports of Turkish Atrocities.

STOCKHOLM, June 15.—The question whether Turkish atrocities have been committed against Jews on a large scale, or whether they have been objects of cruel but inevitable hardships incidental to military necessity, is a live one in Germany, despite the fact that the Berlin papers have kept the lid nailed down tight on the discussion.

It is said that Secretary Zimmermann has prevailed upon the Turkish military authorities, through the Berlin War Office, to permit a committee of three prominent Germans to tour Palestine and investigate the atrocity rumors. Jewish organizations throughout Germany are raising funds for their people.

Minister Morris is in constant touch with the Swedish Foreign Office, and hopes to get through the resident Swedish Minister at Constantinople the truth concerning the treatment of the Jews. So far he has received little tangible information concerning conditions in Palestine.

## DR. MELISH BREAKS ARM BY FALL FROM "L" STAIRS

Brooklyn Clergyman Drops 18 Feet From Unfinished Stairway Left Unguarded, Policeman Says.

The Rev. John Howard Melish, rector of Holy Trinity Church, Montague and Clinton Streets, Brooklyn, fell early to-day from an unfinished stairway at the Central Avenue station of the Myrtle Avenue Elevated road. He is in St. Catherine's Hospital with scalp wounds, concussion of the brain, a compound fracture of the right arm and possible internal injuries.

New stations and stairways are being installed along the Myrtle Avenue line, and at Central Avenue only one staircase is finished. The other ascends fifteen or eighteen feet and terminates abruptly. Dr. Melish, failing to observe that the stairway was unfinished, plunged through the opening and fell heavily to the street. He was found, groaning and semiconscious, by Policeman Tynan of the Hamburg Avenue station.

According to Tynan, the unfinished stairway was not guarded. Dr. Melish is one of the prominent Protestant Episcopal clergyman of

the city and lives at No. 128 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn. Though his condition is serious, it is said at the hospital that he will recover.

## 352 NEW CADETS ENTER WEST POINT ACADEMY

Largest Plebe Class in History Brings Enrolment Up to 900.

WEST POINT, June 15.—A class of 352 new cadets was admitted to the Military Academy to-day. This is the largest plebe class in the history of the institution, and brings the present enrolment up to 900.

"It is expected the class which entered to-day will be augmented during the summer, increasing the number of plebes to nearly 400. Extra ground has been obtained for camp purposes and the new class will go into camp with the battalion early in July.

Members of the second class, who will be graduated Aug. 30, are still in winter quarters, although the other classes are in tents on the campus.

## Russian Troops in Raid Force German Wire Maze.

PETROGRAD, June 15.—The latest official communication says: "Russian-Galician Front—In the region of the Village of Martishka, northeast of Smorgon, a party of our scouts under command of three officers, supported by artillery, made a daring reconnaissance. Forcing their way through passages opened in wire en-

tanglements, the scouts entered enemy trenches and destroyed the same. The patrol bayoneted those who resisted and took three prisoners. In Carpathians, northeast of Haidover, large enemy scouting parties attempted to attack our barrier guards, but retired to their trenches on being met with our rifle fire. "Roumanian Front—There were the usual fusillades."

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Girls' Silk Dresses—size 8 to 16 years; pretty models, in Taffeta, Pongee and Crepe de Chine. 12.75 and 18.50

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In the new Coat lengths, Serges and Oxfords.

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## For Men and Young Men

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